



PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 16, 1858.

John Van Buren's assault upon Gov. Wise, will do the Governor no harm in Virginia, at least. Mr. Van Buren's new born zeal in behalf of the Democratic party, cannot obliterate the recollection of his previous course, on sectional questions. Let no issue be made between Van Buren and Wise, and the latter will rally the whole state in his favor! In justice to Gov. Wise it ought to be stated, that in the same Tammany Hall letter from which Mr. Van Buren quotes, Gov. Wise said:-

"And for any difference of opinion as to the mere mode of submitting or solving this question, I protest that no true, honest, earnest Democrat should be proscribed. No northerner ought to denounce the President for recognizing the fact of the legitimacy of the Lecompton convention, and no southerner ought to denounce Senator Douglas for contending manfully for the right of the sovereign people to adopt or reject their own form of self-government."

We give in another column the details of the proceedings of the House of Representatives on the Kansas bill. The Committee of Conference was ordered, but only by the casting vote of the Speaker in its favor. We do not know what the result of this conference may be, but we will hope for the best. The chances are decidedly against any yielding on the part of those who voted for the Montgomery amendment;—and, if the majority in the Senate hold on, too, the bill fails altogether, and the interminable Kansas case will still continue a subject of agitation and annoyance, disturbing the peace of the country, and impeding the legislation of Congress on subjects of importance to the whole nation. Cannot the patriotism of patriotic men devise some plan for settling the matter, as far as Congress is concerned, at once?

The New York Herald proposes to the approaching Southern Commercial Convention, first, that instead of long speeches, high sounding resolutions, and empty abstractions, they proceed to a practical effort to raise the money and steamers for the Southern experiment of direct trade. Secondly, that after raising a handsome sum of money, cash down, the Convention shall send a competent agent or committee to New York to buy the Collins' steamers. There are three of them—the Atlantic, the Baltic, and the crack ship, the Adriatic—three of the largest, swiftest, strongest and most beautiful steamers in the world, now lying idle, and all for sale!

Capt. Marey left his camp ground, forty miles from Fort Union, on the 18th of March. He had about twelve hundred animals, mostly mules, an abundant supply of forage, and plenty of provisions for his men. One hundred and fifty regular troops and the same number of herdsmen and mountaineers were with him, and he expressed great confidence in being able to reach Camp Scott without difficulty. He intended to travel slowly so as to keep the animals in good condition, but expected to join Gen. Johnston before the 1st of May. An express from Fort Leavenworth with orders to General Garland to furnish Capt. Marey with a strong escort was met on the 19th of March six miles east of Santa Fe. A large number of Indians were also met, all of whom expressed a desire for peace with the Americans. The grass on the plains was growing rapidly.

News from Utah reaches us by way of California. Our dates are to the 6th of February. The Mormons had held mass meetings, to sustain Brigham Young, in different parts of the Territory. One of these assemblies, held in Salt Lake City, had adopted two addresses, one directed to President Buchanan and the other to Congress, setting forth the grievances of the Mormons, and declaring a fixed determination to resist the entrance of the army into the city. It is reported that a force of one thousand men was ordered out for the purpose of cutting off Gen. Johnston's supplies. The speeches of the leaders were as inflammatory as ever, and, if possible, a trifle more vulgar.

The address of the citizens and authorities of Great Salt Lake city (the Mormons) read in the Senate, on Wednesday, was characterized as false in its statements, and insolent in its tone. They complain of the course of the federal government—say they are injured, insulted, and oppressed;—and declare that they will maintain their rights, religion, &c.

Five and forty cities, towns, villages, and "sites of towns" in different parts of Virginia, Maryland, and North Carolina, are requesting their representatives in Congress to support their applications for the location of the proposed National Foundry. In the mean time, the "noise and confusion" tends to prevent any action at all on the subject.

The Senate, by a vote of 39 to 12, has adopted the joint resolution from the H. use, for the adjournment of Congress, on Monday, the 7th of June. We hope this resolution may be stuck to. Settle the Kansas question this week, and all the other business can be transacted orderly, and with full time for deliberation, by the day designated.

William H. Parker has recovered, in the Twelfth District Court of San Francisco, Cal., a verdict of \$2,000 against Com. Wm. Merwin, of the U. S. ship of war Independence, for false imprisonment. Parker was confined for a long time by the Commodore, in iron, on the ship.

The municipal elections in many of the towns in the North and West, have turned upon the question of Lecompton and Anti-Lecompton. The Anti-Lecomptonites in these sections generally carry the day—but there are exceptions.

In the debate on the Washington Police Bill, in the House of Representatives, on Wednesday, "Mr. Reagan of Texas, said it was his purpose to vote against the bill, and as the discussion, especially on the republican side of the House, had a tendency towards making it a party question, he desired to make a few remarks. A few days ago he was read out of the democratic party. [A voice. "You got safely back this morning."] He apprehended that it would require his being read out of the party by the Washington Union three days in the week to keep him out! He was going to vote against this bill upon his convictions of duty. He tried to get the floor to present his views upon the Deficiency bill, but was unable to get the floor. He should at a future time refer to this matter, in order that that paper which professes to be an organ of the democratic party, should not, upon a false statement, manufactured by itself, send the information to his constituents that he was out of the democratic party. As he was read out of the party on that occasion because he would not sanction the voting of a gratuity of \$72,000 to certain clerks of the House for services passed, he supposed he was to be in danger if he refused to vote away money to patron the losers of the City of Washington, of being again voted out of the democratic party."

The Fredericksburg Recorder denies that "the influence of any clique or faction was instrumental in effecting the appointment of Mr. Floyd to the Secretaryship of War, and says it is responsible for the assertion, that no Executive acted without regard to any such meretricious cause." The Recorder further remarks:—"We are well aware of the fact that there are certain parties who would arrogate to themselves the credit of this appointment, and who had earnestly hoped to direct and govern the opinions and course of Gov. Floyd in the Cabinet. That course has been a sad disappointment to all such wicked hopes." The Secretary of War has, for a long time back, been subjected to an apparently bitter hostility, the why and whereof of which, we do not know.

The following is an extract of a letter, dated Rio Janeiro, February 2:—"The fever takes the sailors off very fast. There are vessels in the harbor with no one on board, some having died, while the rest are in the hospital. There is a small steamer which runs across the Bay once every day, with the sick. When a man is sick on board a vessel, the flag is set in the main, and the steamer comes along and takes him out. It is a sad sight to see from thirty to forty vessels with their flags thus displayed."

In the Circuit Court of Prince Georges County, Md., held this week, the Marlboro' Gazette says, that the case of Dr. Wm. E. Peach, charged with killing a man in Nottingham district, named Scandlin, was submitted to the Court, without argument.—Judge Crain, on hearing the testimony, fully acquitted Dr. Peach, and remarked that there was not a scintilla of evidence going to show that the doctor was guilty of the charge in the indictment—on the contrary, that he acted strictly in self-defense.

The people of Charleston, S. C., gave Mr. Everett an enthusiastic and highly complimentary reception on his arrival at that city last Saturday evening. He was met at the railroad depot by a committee and welcomed. Richard Yeadon, esq., of the Charleston Courier, chairman of the committee, delivered a brief but expressive and beautiful speech of welcome, to which Mr. Everett replied in his most eloquent and happy style.

The arrangements for the Orsini demonstration in New York, are still progressing. Among other ridiculous things in contemplation, it is said that there will be an effigy of Louis Napoleon, which will be dragged along with the torchlight procession, and when it reaches a certain point, a number of mock iron machines will be let off, killing the Emperor outright, and the heaviest vociferations of *Vive la Republique!*

The Supreme Court of California has decided the case of Biddle Boggs vs. the Merced Mining Company—reversing the judgment of the Court below. The question involves the title of Fremont to the mineral wealth of his Mariopos claim. The Court decides against Fremont, and that a fee simple to land does not carry with it the title to the gold extracted therefrom. This is considered a great triumph for the miners.

A private letter, states that the health of Havana is very bad, deaths occurring almost daily from the vomit. The heat is very great, and at the date of the letter, April 1, the thermometer ranged as high as during the summer months. The small pox, it is stated, is also rife in Havana, and altogether the sanitary condition of the place is such as to offer no inducement to persons to risk their lives by a visit.

The Fredericksburg Recorder says that the course of the Union with regard to those Southern Democrats who opposed the Deficiency bill, is not at all calculated to vindicate the claims of the bill or secure future co-operation with the Administration, on the part of those whose conscientious opposition to a fraudulent system of appropriations is construed into a factious hostility to the Executive.

The ship John Gilpin, from Honolulu for New Bedford, has been lost off Cape Horn, and the crew and passengers, numbering fifteen, were saved by the British ship Herefordshire, five of whom were transferred to the ship Sunny South, which has arrived at New York. Their names are, Mrs. Wood and two children, and Messrs. Sherwood and Ford.

The Maryland Eastern Shore Convention was to meet at Easton, on Wednesday. This gathering, it will be recollected, comes out of the fact that the bill for satisfying the claim of the Eastern Shore for the residue (some \$800,000) of the million embraced in the act of 1835, for internal improvements in that portion of Maryland, was defeated at the late session of the Legislature.

A block of buildings owned by Mr. Longworth, and occupied as a coffee house, feed store, furniture, and other establishments, in Cincinnati, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday. Loss \$35,000, with a partial insurance. By this disaster a large number of poor families were rendered homeless. A fireman was fatally injured by falling from the roof.

It is stated that the President has written a conciliatory letter to Governor Wise, in which he expresses regret that any cause of estrangement should have arisen between them, suggesting that the Lecompton issue is but temporary. We do not vouch for the report, but it is probable that a correspondence has taken place between the President and Gov. Wise.

Hon. Thomas F. Marshall is lecturing in Cincinnati. On Saturday evening last he delivered a most eloquent and feeling lecture on Total Abstinence, to a crowded house.—He gave as a reason for choosing such a threadbare subject for his lecture:—"I trust you will pardon me if I confess that I did it because, as I am starting off my travels South, West, East and North, where I shall be greatly tempted, I wished publicly to commit myself in favor of Total Abstinence so that I shall not dare to violate my pledge to abstain. [Loud and long continued applause.] It was to strengthen myself in this last effort that I delivered this address tonight, for I feel that if I fall now I shall fall never to rise."

The Clergy at the Hope Chapel, in New York, have appointed a day of fasting and thanksgiving throughout the churches of New York and vicinity. The committee on business men's prayer meeting in Philadelphia, have also recommended a fast day.—The prayer meetings are still well attended in both cities.

A severe storm visited California, about the first of March. It lasted for several days, and destroyed a vast amount of property. In Trinity county alone, the damage is estimated at \$20,000. On Clear Creek, property valued at fully as much, was destroyed.—Bridges, and large quantities of flummery, for mining purposes, were swept away.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Philadelphia are now constructing a huge tent, capable of holding four thousand persons, to be used by them during the summer, for preaching in destitute and isolated locations.

From the Isthmus, the only item of real interest, that news had reached Panama, that the treaty between the United States and New Granada had been ratified at Bogota.

The "Second Advent" people having failed to bring the world to an end, on the 14th inst., will now have to set their pegs a little further on. It is about time this foolery had ceased.

A fire recently occurred in Gilbert street, London, entailing the loss of 15 lives. The parties were asleep in the house at the time, and their escape was cut off by the rapid progress of the flames.

The feeling on the subject of Religion is increasing in Fredericksburg; and throughout Virginia the Prayer Meetings are numerous and attended.

Wheeling, is in the field for the National Foundry.

Telegraphic Despatches.

Boston, March 14.—The twelve thousand dollars lately taken from the Grafton Bank have been recovered. Stockwell, the young lad previously arrested on suspicion, on being examined relative to the robbery, confessed that a clerk of the bank arranged with him to be absent while he (the lad) should take the money and hide it in a box in the bank building, which he did. Upon the clerk's returning to a spot near his house.—On these facts being known, officers waited upon the clerk and demanded the money, the whole of which he returned with the exception of eight dollars.

Washington, April 14.—The anti-Lecompton Democrats of the House were this morning two hours in caucus. About one-half of them were in favor of a committee to meet that on the part of the Senate in conference on the Kansas bill, because, as they said, it was understood the Speaker would give them a committee favorable to their side of the question. They say they did not wish, in taking this course, to be considered as abandoning their opposition to the Lecompton constitution, but they wished to show becoming respect to the Senate. If it had been necessary to secure the appointment of the committee, Messrs. Cook and Foley would have voted in the affirmative in the House on Mr. English's motion, in company with Messrs. English, Hall of Ohio, Pendleton, and Owen Jones, who sustain the Montgomery-Crittenden substitute.

The Senate, in executive session to-day, confirmed a number of land officers. Among them Isaac Watts Griffith, as register at Fort Des Moines.

St. Louis, April 13.—The Leavenworth correspondent of the Republican says that Messrs. Russell, Mayer & Waddell have received orders to start one hundred and ten trains, consisting of twenty six wagons each, for Camp Scott. These trains will take upwards of 3,000 teamsters and 14,000 mules. A company ofappers and miners, from West Point, had reached the Fort.

The entire force at the fort on the 9th inst., consisted of twelve companies of artillery, three of infantry, and two of dragoons. Two hundred and seventy men were reported ready for service. Captain Hoffman's command had passed Fort Kearney, and was rapidly pushing forward. The movement of troops to take post in the new district of Platte, will commence in a few days.

St. Louis, April 13.—The Santa Fe mail, with dates to the 13th ult., has arrived.—Richard H. Tompkins has been appointed attorney-general, vice Theodore Wheaton, resigned. The Utah and Navajo Indians had failed to conclude a treaty of peace.—The Utahs, assisted by the Arrapahoes, intend to attack the Navajos at the next moon. The details of the outrages and murders committed in Donna Anna county had been received.

The letting of contracts for the supply of the subsistence department of the army took place on the 4th ult.

St. Louis, April 13.—The Leavenworth correspondent of the Republican says that a letter was in circulation for signatures assuring General Calhoun of his safety, against personal violence, in case he shall return to reopen the surveyor general's office. Mayor Adams is among the signers. The State central committee had issued a call for a delegate convention to nominate officers under the Leavenworth constitution to be held at Topeka, on the 25th inst. The sense of the people will be taken as to who shall be the United States Senators.

CHARLESTON, April 13.—The steamship Isabel has arrived from Havana and Key West 10th inst. She brings no political news of interest. Sugar and molasses were quiet at Havana. Cloyed molasses 31 reals; muscovado, 41 reals. Freight very dull. Exchange on London, sixty days, 11 1/2 premium; on Northern and Eastern cities, par to 2 per cent. premium.

CHARLESTON, April 13.—Advices from Florida state that Billy Bowlegs and twenty-two of his warriors had delivered themselves up to the United States authorities.

PEORIA, Ill., April 13.—N. B. Curtis & Co., bankers, of this city, resumed payment yesterday.

Ordered.—Commander James H. Ward has been ordered to the command of the rendezvous at Philadelphia, vice Commander Jno. R. Goldborough, whose term of service has expired. Pursuer John W. Nixon has been ordered to the sloop-of-war Marion, now on the coast of Africa.—Wash. Star.

The Kansas Bill.—In the House of Representatives, on Wednesday, Mr. MONTGOMERY, of Pennsylvania, at one o'clock, asked consent of the House to take up the Kansas bill.

No objection being made, the resolution of the Senate was read, insisting upon its disagreement to the House amendment, and asking for a conference.

Mr. MONTGOMERY, I now move that the House insist upon its adherence, and upon that motion I call for the previous question. Mr. ENGLISH, of Indiana, I rise to propose a question to the Chair, which I believe to be pertinent. I desire to know whether, if a committee of conference should be ordered by the House, parliamentary law and practice would require that a majority of that committee should be composed of gentlemen representing the views of the majority of the House, or of gentlemen who are in favor of the House bill.

Mr. STANTON, of Ohio, If this interrogatory is not in order, I object.

The House of Pennsylvania, It is not a question of a committee of conference, and it is not in order. I object to any thing out of order.

Mr. ENGLISH, I have confidence in the Presiding Officer of this House, and I give notice that it is my intention if the previous question is voted down, to move for a committee of conference.

Several Voices, "Good, good."

The question on seconding the call for the previous question was taken by tellers, and resulted—yeas 108, nays 107.

The Speaker voted in the negative, making a tie vote. So the call for the previous question was not sustained.

Mr. ENGLISH, I do not wish my action upon this occasion to be misunderstood; therefore, I desire to say that I am very decidedly opposed to the Senate bill in its present shape, and I do not think I could vote for it in any event. But, sir, notwithstanding that I entertain this opinion, I am unwilling to say to a co-ordinate branch of the National Legislature that I am unwilling to hear what they have to say. I think it is due to them that we should accede to their proposal, and that we should grant a committee of conference. Good may come out of it, and I cannot see any harm possibly in so doing. Therefore, sir, I move that the House agree to the conference proposed by the Senate on the subject-matter of the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the said amendment, and that three members be appointed to manage the conference on the part of the House of Representatives; and, Mr. Speaker, I now call for the previous question.

Mr. WASHBURN, of Maine, I rise to a question of order. It is not in order for the gentleman from Indiana to make that motion after the House has adhered to its amendment to this bill. Until the House reconsider the vote by which it adhered, it is not in order to make this motion; and I think the Chair will not find a single precedent for it.

Mr. ENGLISH overruled the question of order, and cited as a precedent in point from the Journal of the Senate, of June 30, 1834, when Mr. Webster reported from a committee in favor of a committee of conference upon a similar state of facts. He found fifteen or twenty more precedents to the same effect, which it was unnecessary to recite.

Mr. WASHBURN thought there was no precedent precisely like this, and desired to point out the difference.

Mr. CLEMENS, of Va., wished to debate.

Mr. CAMPBELL, of Ohio, objected to make a few remarks, and asked Mr. English to withdraw the call for the previous question.

Mr. GARNETT, of Virginia, also asked for an opportunity to explain the vote which he should give.

Mr. ENGLISH would yield to the gentleman from Virginia if he could retain the floor. His proposition to accede to the request for a committee of conference with the distinct understanding that the usage of this body, and the usage of all parliamentary bodies, required that the committee should represent the majority.

Mr. MONTGOMERY called the gentleman to order. If he was going to make a speech, he trusted there would be an opportunity to reply.

Mr. ENGLISH was not going to make a speech. He would only say that, as the inviolable rule was that committees should be so constituted as to represent the majority, in this case a majority of the committee of conference would be taken from the anti-Lecompton side of the House. He would yield to the gentleman from Virginia, (Mr. Garnett.)

Mr. WARREN, of Arkansas, and others objected.

Mr. ENGLISH. Then I can serve his purpose by propounding to him a question. I have the floor, and I have the right to ask him a question.

Mr. STANTON, of Ohio, objected, and insisted that it would not be in order.

Mr. ENGLISH. Then I will not ask him a question, but I am curious to know whether he would vote for the Senate bill?

Gentlemen on all sides called to order. Mr. ENGLISH. I understand him to say that he would vote against the Senate bill if amended in any respect.

Mr. MARSHALL, of Kentucky, inquired if the motion for a committee was an affirmative independent proposition.

The SPEAKER decided that it was an amendment. The vote would be first on the proposition for a conference, and second upon the motion to insist.

The previous question was seconded, and the main question ordered to be put without a division.

Mr. CAMPBELL, of Ohio, demanded the yeas and nays on the proposition for a conference, which were ordered, and resulted as follows: Yeas—Messrs. Abbott, Andrews, Bennett, Billingshield, Brigham, Blair, Bliss, Brayton, Bullington, Burlingame, Burroughs, Campbell, Borton, Hatch, Hawkins, Hill, Hopkins, Houston, Hughes, Jackson, Jenkins, Jewett, Jones, Keen, J. G. Jones, Owen Jones, Keith, Kelley, Kunkel, of Md., Lamar, Landy, Leidy, Letcher, Macay, McQueen, Mason, Maynard, Miles, Miller, Millson, Moore, Nickless, Pendleton, Peyton, Phelps, Phillips, Powell, Quitman, Ready, Reagan, Ruffin, Russell, Sandage, Savage, Shaw, of N. Y., Smith of Tenn., Stewart of Me. Talbot, Taylor of N. Y., Tripp, Ward, Warren, Watkins, White, Winslow, Woodson, Wortendyke, Wright of Ga., Wright of Tenn., and Zollieffer—108.

NAYS—Messrs. Abbott, Andrews, Bennett, Billingshield, Brigham, Blair, Bliss, Brayton, Bullington, Burlingame, Burroughs, Campbell, Cass, Claflie, Chapman, Clark, A. Corn, Clark, Crockett, Coker, Cottax, Combs, Corvode, Cox, Cragin, Curtis, Darnell, Davis of Md., Davis of Ind., Davis of Mass, Davis of Iowa, Daves, Dean, Dick, Doll, Dorrer, Edie, Farnsworth, Featon, Feley, Foster, Giddings, Gilmer, Gilman, Groch, Goodwin, Granger, Groesbeck, Grow, Hall of Mass, Harlan, Harris of Md., Harris of Ill., Haskin, Hickman, Hoard, Horton, Howard, Kellogg, Kelley, Kilgore, Knapp, Lawrence, Leach, Leide, Levey, Mar, May, Mayhew, Merrill, Morris of Penn., Murray, Nichols, Palmer, Parker, Pettit, Pike, Potter, Pottier, Purviance, Ricard, Ritchie, Robbins, Royce, Shaw of Ill., Sherman of Ohio, Sherman of N. Y., Smith of Ill., Spinner, Stanton, Stewart of Penn., Tappan, Thompson, Tompkins, Underwood, Wade, Walbridge, Waldron, Walton, Washburne of Ill., Washburne of Maine, Wilson, and Wood—108.

[The following gentlemen were reported as having paired off: Messrs. Adrain, Arnold, C. B. Cochrane, of New York, Corning, Dimmick, Gillis, Hayler, Kunkel, of Pennsylvania, McKibbin, Olin, Reilly, Roberts, Sickles, Taylor of Louisiana, Thayer, and Washburn, of Wisconsin. Mr. Whiteley had paired off with Mr. Dick, but the pair expired on Tuesday. Mr. Whiteley was the only one absent who had not paired.]

The Speaker voted in the affirmative. So the amendment providing for a conference was agreed to.

The announcement of the result was followed by slight applause in the gallery.

The SPEAKER directed the Doorkeeper to expel every gentleman who had so far forgotten himself as to cause the disturbance.

Mr. HARRIS, of Illinois, hoped the Chair would first take some notice of the gentlemen on the floor who had set the bad example by clapping their hands.

The SPEAKER was not aware of any disturbance in the House, and if he had been would have no right to order the House to be cleared. If the gentleman would point out any case of disorder, no doubt the House would take proper action.

Mr. CURTIS, of Iowa, appealed to the Chair to forbear clearing the gallery.

The SPEAKER would not set the example, and that visitors who come here to enjoy the privilege of listening to the debates would not again violate the decorum and order of the House.

Mr. GROW, of Pennsylvania, excepted to the Speaker's use of the word "privilege."

It was not the "privilege" of American citizens to listen to the proceedings of Congress; it was their right.

The SPEAKER said it was unquestionably a privilege.

Mr. ENGLISH moved to reconsider the vote last taken, and to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

The yeas and nays were ordered on the latter motion, and resulted: Yeas 108, nays 108. [The vote was the same as that adopting the proposition for a conference.]

The SPEAKER voted in the affirmative, so the motion prevailed.

The question recurring on agreeing to the proposition as amended, it was agreed to without a division.

Mr. ENGLISH moved a reconsideration of the latter vote, and that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table; which latter motion prevailed.

New Orleans. New Orleans has many charms not to be found in any other city in the Union. In no other place on the continent can we find a city so united and yet so divided. We do not refer to politics, of course, but to social life. The line of demarcation, called Canal street, is very strongly marked. On one side of it there are Americans, Irishmen, and Germans; on the other, French Creoles.

Cross the street and you are in a new world. The language, dress, manners, customs, prices, amusements, become changed, and that which was a moment before is no longer with us.

We have a looking for the French quarter. Its cathedral, solemn and impressive, leading the soul to prayer; its square fronting the edifice, with its statues, flowers, and well cropped trees; its opera with its grand architecture, fine orchestra and scrupulously rehearsed productions; its ladies, building as roses and quite as fair; its reminiscences of old times; its restaurants, where to dine is really to be refreshed; its Spanish balconies, from which many a bright Southern eye looks down; its market, where everything is obtainable, and where all are very demonstrative yet most courteous; its balls, where everybody entering lays aside the cares of the world and goes joyously into the sports of the night.

On the other side of Canal street men are more progressive; business is carried on with a rush; repose is nowhere. Walk along St. Charles street at any hour of the day or night, and what a whirl is there! Bar rooms, with their hundred votaries without and within, and circuses and museums with their innumerable attractions, war-work shows, with every prominent character as unlikable as possible, wheels of fortune, where folks on a turn find their dollars or dimes converted into something much larger, though not so easily convertible, theatres where the legitimate drama is illegitimately treated, and where stars are almost invariably warranted not to shine. A world of business naturally on this street, but for many others, is daily performed. Cotton changes hands at certain seasons with wonderful rapidity; drays rattle through the streets; still-life is nowhere; fortunes are made and squandered; much genial spirit is displayed by nearly all; hotels are filled with thousands of occupants, wealth, even to profusion, is displayed on many sides; poverty and wretchedness on others, and thus our civic world wages on!—New Orleans Delta.

The Slave Case in San Francisco. Considerable excitement has been caused in this city, by some legal proceedings in regard to the negro Archy, claimed as a slave by C. A. Stovall, and surrendered by the Supreme Court to his owner several weeks ago. Stovall started with the negro for New Orleans, on the steamer Orizaba, on the 5th of March. Before the steamer had cleared the heads, however, an officer with a writ of habeas corpus took Archy in custody, and brought him back to this city. Stovall was also arrested on a charge of kidnapping, and brought back.

This latter charge, having to do with Archy, was dismissed next day by Police Judge Connor. The habeas corpus for Archy was made returnable before Judge Freelon, of the Court of Sessions, and after several continuances it was finally heard on the 17th inst. Judge Freelon ordered the negro to be set at liberty, but before he left the court room he was re-arrested by the United States Marshal, by virtue of a writ issued under the fugitive slave law. This caused great excitement among the colored population of the city, and some of them talked loud about rescuing Archy from the officers. Little more than talking was done, however, though for a short time a serious riot was threatened. Archy was carried before the United States Commissioner, George Pen Johnston, who is expected to give a decision in time to permit Stovall to take him off by the present steamer in case it is held that the boy is a fugitive slave under the act of 1850.—San Francisco Herald, March 22.

The White Sulphur. The White Sulphur, for the last 6 or 7 months, has presented, pretty much, the aspect of a thriving little village. Several hundred mechanics have been engaged there on the improvements which have been in progress, and the busy hum of the trowel, the hammer, the chisel, and the saw, have greeted the ear on every side. The main and large building, commenced last fall, is under roof, and the operation of plastering, painting, &c., is progressing rapidly. There is but little doubt now but that it will be completed by the opening of the Springs season.

The old dining room has been levelled to the ground, and all the rubbish removed.—Virginia Row has been removed, and part of it set in the open spaces in the row at the head of the lawn in front of the Hotel. The new building, forming a new circular hall, with open space at places, with houses set in their rear.

The improvements now taking place, with those in contemplation, will make the White Sulphur the Watering Place of America.

Trade between France and the South. There are features in Mr. Preston's plan which we cannot approve. The appropriation of bounties to steamship monopolies from the Federal Treasury, is repugnant to the principles of the State Rights Democracy. But, a fair compensation for mail service, is a different and altogether unobjectionable expedient. If the members of the Bristol Convention intend this latter arrangement, then they should not accept the inequality of terms which we understand Mr. Preston to submit in the name of the French Government.—Again, we do not like the idea of allowing foreign stockholders a control of the Directory for the first year after the organization of the company. Altogether, the arrangement has a rather partial and one-sided appearance.

But, we are not disposed to insist upon speculative objections. We are willing to make many allowances for the embarrassments of Mr. Preston's position.

It is difficult to see how anything in Europe can be resorted to the advantage of the diplomatic character. We admit that an individual acting in behalf of an unknown and irresponsible association, must exhibit uncommon skill and enterprise to conciliate confidence among the capitalists of London or Paris. We remember, too, that Mr. Preston was urging the interests of an untied and hazardous venture. These considerations unite in suggesting an indulgent appreciation of his labors. Although his scheme be obnoxious to criticism in some of its details, we must allow just praise to the originality and plausibility of its leading idea. To run a line of ocean steamers in correspondence with a system of railway communication on both sides of the Atlantic, is a suggestion of which the merit is due to Mr. Preston and his associates in the Bristol Convention. The advantages of such an arrangement are obvious and essential. If the influence wielded by the Orleans Company in France be directed with the view of securing adequate patronage to a steamship line in its own interest, that fact of itself will almost determine the success of the enterprise. The ramifications of the Orleans Company embrace full third of the French Empire, and that too the most productive in agricultural and manufacturing industry. Besides, its main line communicates with Switzerland, Germany and North Italy, and from these different shorewards attracts the staples of commerce to the point of trans-Atlantic shipment.

On our side, the Virginia system of railway intercourse is not a whit less comprehensive in its Briarcliff embrace. Within six months the Petersburg and Norfolk road will be finished. Before the lapse of another year, at farthest, the Richmond and York River line will be completed. Then will every part of the Commonwealth be easily accessible from the sea coast. The railway and canal tributaries of Alexandria, Richmond, and Petersburg, traversing in conjunction the entire surface of this State, and communicating with the exhaustless valley of the Mississippi, will converge at common point and deposit their cargoes successively into the lap of Norfolk. Surely here are resources sufficient for the support of a steamship line. That they will not be dissipated and thus fail of effect, but will rather be concentrated so as to flow in a single volume to the desired point, is an advantage of which the associate railways and steamers give a satisfactory guarantee.

The argument in favor of direct trade between France and Virginia, is strengthened by moral considerations of the weightiest character. The commercial independence of the South is incontestably essential to the development of its material wealth and political power.—Rich. South.

Artificial Gold. It is stated that some French chemists have succeeded in forming an alloy which very closely resembles gold. The materials and proportions used by them are—pure copper, one hundred parts by weight; zinc, sixteen; magnesia six; sal-ammoniac 3.00; quick-lime 1.80; tartar, nine. The copper is melted in a crucible, in a suitable furnace; the magnesia, sal-ammoniac, lime and tartar are then added, separately, and by degrees, in the form of powder. The whole is stirred for about thirty minutes to mix the ingredients, and the slag is then poured on the surface, leaving the fire burning under very small grains; the stirring is continued until the fusion is complete. The crucible is now covered, and the fusion continued for about thirty-five minutes, when it is uncovered and skimmed with care, and the contents are run into a mould of moist sand or metal. The material which results may be cast at such a temperature that any ornamental forms may be given to it. It is very fine grained, and is also damascene, malleable, and capable of taking a very brilliant polish. When tarnished by oxidation, its brilliancy can be restored by a little acidulated water. If tin be employed in the composition instead of zinc, the alloy will be still more brilliant.